State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HRI #

PRIMARY RECORD
Trinomial
NRHP Status Code
Review Code
Reviewer
Date

Pag	e <u>1</u>	of	<u>18</u>	
P1.	Oth	er I	dentifi	er:

*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) The Paulding History House

*P2 Location: Not for Publication

nrestricted *a. County San Luis Obispo

*P2. Location: ☐ Not for Publication ☐ Unrestricted and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Arroyo Grande NE, Calif. Date 1965 T 32S; R 13E; 1/4 1/4 of 1/41/4 of Sec 22; ______ B.M.

c. Address <u>551 Crown Hill Street</u> City <u>Arroyo Grande</u> Zip <u>93420</u>

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10: 721142mE/ 3889746mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)
The Paulding History House was constructed in a Folk Victorian architectural style by local carpenter James Morrison in 1889. It is sited at the top of the "Crown Hill" area in the City of Arroyo Grande in Central California approximately 15 miles south of the city of San Luis Obispo. The property was the Paulding family's residence, medical practice, occasional hospital, and women's activities meeting place from 1891 until Ruth Paulding bequeathed the house and property to the San Luis Obispo County Historical for a house museum that would serve as an educational center for early 19th and 20th Century life in Arroyo Grande, as well as an illustration of the areas of medicine, education, agriculture, and social history of the local community. The building is an L-shaped, wood-framed farmhouse with traditional horizontal wood shiplap siding, and steep gable ends on the south, west, and east elevations. Fenestration primarily consists of wood-framed single hung windows. Two brick faced chimneys, one at the pitch of the south roofline and the other placed on the slope of the north roof punctuate the roof. The elbow of the L-shape contains the original front porch roof that covers the formal entryway. The building retains a high level of integrity (See P3a, Continuation Sheets for detailed significance statements.)

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) (HP2) Single Family Property,

*P4. Resources Present: ⊠ Building □ Structure □ Object □ Site □ District □ Element of District □ Other (Isolates, etc.)



P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) South and West elevations looking East from West Gardens. May 28, 2008

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:

☐ Historic ☐ Prehistoric ☐ Both

1889 - factual/historic, Source

documented by South County Historical

Society Archives

*P7. Owner and Address:

Jane Line, President

South County Historical Society

P. O. Box 633, Arroyo Grande, CA

93421

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)

Cynthia Thompson, Consultant

Authentic Resources Team

807 Poli Street, Ventura, Ca 93001

*P9. Date Recorded: 6/23/2008

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) California

Register Nomination

*P11. Report Citation:	(Cite survey report and other sources,	, or enter "none.")	none
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Attachments:	NONE L	l Location Map 📙	Sketch Map	Continuation	n Sheet 📙	Building,	Structure, a	nd Object	Record L	→ Archaeologic	al Record
☐ District Record	d 🗖 Linea	r Feature Record	☐ Milling Sta	ation Record 🗖	Rock Art F	Record \Box	Artifact Rec	ord \square P	hotograph	n Record	

☐ Other (list) _

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BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

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*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) The Paulding History House

- B1. Historic Name: The Paulding Residence
- B2. Common Name: The Paulding History House
- B3. Original Use: Residence of Dr. Edwin L. Paulding, Mrs. Clara E. Paulding, and Ruth Paulding, & occasional hospital
- B4. Present Use: Display of the History of Arroyo Grande in the form of a House Museum

b. Builder: James Morrison

- *B5. Architectural Style: Folk Victorian
- *B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) ______ Constructed in 1889 as residence. Minor alterations by Paulding family members from 1891 through 1974. Maintenance alterations by the South County Historical Society from 1998 through 2004. See P3a. Continuation Sheets for detailed building description and alterations. See B10. Continuation Sheets for detailed significance statements.

*B7.	Moved? ⊠ No l	」Yes □	Unknown	Date: _	Original Location:
*B8.	Related Features:	The hous	se is surrour	ded by 1	local landmarked Oak trees, native plant gardens, and walkways.

*B10. Significance: Theme <u>Community Development</u> Area <u>Medicine; social history; education</u>
Period of Significance <u>1891-1946</u> Property Type <u>Single Family Residence</u> Applicable Criteria <u>2</u>

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

The Paulding History House is eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources under Criterion 2 for associations with Dr. Edwin Paulding, the first permanent doctor in San Luis Obispo's "South County" and for associations with Clara Paulding for her significant contributions to the community in the areas of education and social history. The period of significance is 1891-1946, the period of occupation by the Pauldings. (See B10. Continuation Sheets for detailed significance statements.)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) (HP15) House Museum, (HP38) Women's Property, (HP41) Hospital

*B12. References:

See– B12 References Continuation Sheet on page 17 of this report.

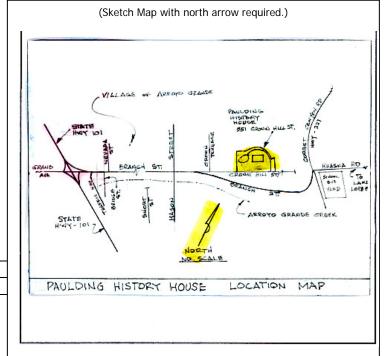
B13. Remarks: Sketch Map drawn in 2003 by South County Historical Society member. For more maps with greater detail, turn to pages 23 through 30 of this report, Section entitled *Maps – Exterior and Interior*.

*B14. Evaluator:

Cynthia Thompson
Authentic Resources Team
807 Poli Street
Ventura, CA 93001

(This space reserved for official comments.)

*Date of Evaluation: June 23, 2008



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P3a. Description (Continued)

<u>Exterior</u>

The Paulding House is a two-story, wood-framed Folk Victorian Farm House. It is a simple L-shaped configuration with steep gable ends on the east, south, and west elevations. The roof is composed of wood shingles and two chimneys protrude. The first chimney is the original brick ornamented vertical rectangle shape that serviced an open fireplace in the living room. The second chimney protrudes from the north roof and is less ornamented as it served a wood-burning stove. Both chimneys are non-functioning with the kitchen chimney being decommissioned when a gas burning stove was installed in the 1910s. The structure sits on a 28,209 square foot lot and measures at ground level 43 feet, 7 inches, by 32 and 1/2 feet. The foundation is built of local "sandstone" rock bonded with cement mortar. The construction of the exterior walls of the house is the original single wall redwood shiplap, typical of the time period. All exterior corners of the structure are ornamented by additional wood trim that is painted a dark brown to contrast with the field color on the shiplap of cream color. The fenestration of the south elevation contains three windows. There are two first floor openings, one is a double wood framed, double hung window to the west of this façade. Adjacent to that opening is a single, wood-framed, double hung window. At the second story of this elevation is a single, wood-framed, double hung opening. This pattern of window placement and style is replicated on all three elevations of the structure, south, west, and east. The west elevation contains the L-shape and on the west façade that adjoins the east elevation is another single, wood-framed, double hung window. The rectangular structure that forms the north side of the house also forms the leg of the L-shape. The elbow of this L-shape forms the elevated original porch that is covered by a square hipped roof that is also covered with wood shingles, which are original. Five concrete steps lead to the porch from ground level. The original wood framed steps were replaced by the Paulding family at an unknown time. The east portion of this elevation contains the entry door that is woodframed. The west façade of the leg of the L-shape replicates the fenestration of the south elevation. The north elevation has a steep pitch, slanted roof, with two skylights. This north elevation is also clad in the single wall redwood shiplap. At the center of the north elevation is the kitchen addition that was originally a rear porch. This addition has a slanted shed roof. The west and north exterior walls contain wood-framed windows. The west elevation of this addition is a double wood-framed, double hung window and the north elevation contains a horizontal wood framed opening. Directly adjacent and attached to the east elevation of the north addition is a loosely framed garden shed that is walled only by wood lattice, with the entry on the east side. The north elevation is also clad in the single wall redwood shiplap to match the original siding of the rest of the structure.. The east end of the rectangular structure contains the east facing gable end that has "Stick" ornament at the gable peak. This "Stick" ornament is replicated on both the east and west gable ends of the roof, but is absent on the south elevation. The fenestration beneath the gable end replicates the fenestration of the south façade. However, this exterior elevation extends southward and has an additional single, wood-framed double hung window to allow eastern light into the interior music room.

Exterior Alterations

The current gable roof was refinished in 2003 with new wooden shingles that replicated the original roof of the first fifty years of the structure. During this process, two layers of composition roof that had been added were removed. The hipped roof on the porch is original and is supported by regular 4 by 4 posts without any additional decorative application. The porch, built as part of the original house, was wood-framed. At an unknown time, the Paulding family strengthened and supported the west exterior foundation by applying common red brick and reformed the steps in concrete. A railing was added to this porch and stairway by the South County Historical Society to provide safety for visitors as the house gained in popularity as a house museum. On the ground floor of the original *Required Information*

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footprint, in the middle of the north side of the structure was an open porch measuring 10 feet, 3 inches by 12 feet, 4 inches. Sometime in the late 1910s the porch was enclosed with three walls and a low shed roof that extended the space to 13 square feet. This was to provide for a kitchen that would be adjacent to the dining room. There is also a door on the east wall of the kitchen addition that opens into the north/east corner of the back yard, which is enclosed in lattice walls to screen the trashcans and serve as a garden utility area. Dr. Paulding's original work shed was just beyond this door, but was removed in 1988 when the roadway was built around the house from Crown Hill Street to the present parking visitor lot on the elevated west side of the property. The horse stall where the doctor parked his carriage-buggy was removed in about 1918 when the automobile garage was built north of the house to keep the family owned car at the time. This garage was also removed in 1988 to accommodate the new roadway. Members of the Paulding family undertook all alterations to the original structure conducted prior to the passing of Ruth Paulding in 1985. All alterations conducted after her death have been the efforts of the South County Historical Society to serve the needs of the public as a house museum and are compatible in scale, massing, and materials to the original design.

Past and Current Boundary Description

In 1891, Dr. and Mrs. Paulding purchased from Mr. James Morrison 12 lots on Crown Street measuring 250 feet by 200 feet that included the subject structure, a typical, two-story farmhouse. They lived on this property until their deaths; Dr. Paulding at the age of 85 on February 23, 1935, Clara Paulding at the age of 91 on December 25, 1946, and their daughter, Ruth Paulding, until her passing in 1985 at age 93.

The present boundary was the result of revisions made by Ruth Paulding in 1978 in which she created a life estate that officially donated the portion of the property that contained the Paulding House to the San Luis Obispo County Historical Society. This agreement allowed her to continue to live in the house and serve as its curator for the house museum, as well as subdividing the surrounding property for the development of residential purposes. The revenue from this transaction would provide for the maintenance of the home as a house museum both before and after her passing. Coker Elsworth Construction Company purchased the four lots and built the four houses that now surround the Paulding residence. This company also created the access driveway that is the curved top of the property line that leads to the parking lot on the west side of the property.

Site Design/Landscaping

The lot has many large Coast Live Oak Trees, one thought to be 300 years old. The City of Arroyo Grande designated a number of these oak trees as "Landmark Trees" in 1988. One of these designated trees was adjacent to the northeast corner of the house and had to be removed due to disease in 1996, however, the stump is still evident. The grounds are covered with native plants and a formal garden that is close to the house. The garden is planted on the south elevation of the structure and runs along side of the walk from the front porch to the east side of the lot ending in the driveway. A small picket fence was installed in 2000 along the side of the walk as a protection from the steep angle of the hill to the street. This picket fence is a replication of the original one built by Dr. Paulding in the 1890s and evident in Historic Photo #1. A small tool shed measuring 7 and 1/2 feet by 7 and 1/2 feet and 8 feet in height was constructed in 1988 to provide a place for additional yard tools and is compatible in scale, massing, and materials to the original house. In 2004, a walking path was constructed around the house to accommodate museum visitors, as the ground from the garden path down to Crown Hill Street is extremely steep and covered with native plants.

On the west side of the grounds a formal ground level patio was constructed for outdoor functions and was financed by the Questers of Cinco Ciudades in November of 2003 as support for the South County Historical Society. Other *Required Information*

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decorative items in the garden area have been chosen to be in keeping with the Period of Significance and they include a sundial and a birdbath dedicated to prior Friends of the Paulding House. At the extreme west end of the property is the elevated parking lot that accommodates visitors and staff. A walkway was created to join the parking lot to the entrance of the house so that visitors would pass through the grove of Coast Live Oak trees.

Interior Description

The floor plan of the original interior footprint of the house contained four bedrooms, one downstairs and three on the second floor. The current floor plan footprint of the first floor contains the hallway and stairs as you enter the front door, the formal parlor/living room south of the hallway, the music room east of the parlor/living room, the dining room that is north of the hallway and stairs, the bathroom at the east end of the hallway, and the master bedroom that is west of the dining room and in the northwest corner of the structure. The stair riser trim boards are redwood and the newel post and balustrade is Eastlake Victorian in design. All door trims and baseboards are redwood, painted cream color, and are simple and undecorated in design. The first floor ceilings are ten feet in height. The flooring is redwood and currently covered in wall-to-wall carpeting. The interior walls are single wall construction and all are finished with lath and horse hair plaster. The main windows in the parlor/living and music rooms are 78 inches in height and 66 inches in width with double hung sash and window weights. A partial basement is located beneath the parlor/living room with access from its first floor doorway in the hall under the stairs adjacent to the dining room. The basement is not presently used for any purpose. The heating system was originally a pot-bellied stove in the living room with a flue built to direct the smoke out the primary chimney. Mrs. Paulding insisted that she required a conventional fireplace prior to inhabiting the house. Original owner and builder, James Morrison, constructed a small fireplace in the corner using the brick chimney already in place and completed this in 1891. A patient of Dr. Paulding's, Mr. Charles Crannel, paid his medical bill by building the ornate, Eastlake Victorian styled redwood, fireplace surround and mantel at a date that is not documented. Dr. Edwin Paulding carved the intricate design into the mantel.

Prior to moving into the house in 1891, Mrs. Paulding remodeled the closet that serviced the first floor original bedroom into an indoor bathroom. After having lived in the structure for a few years, the Pauldings reconfigured the original first floor rooms. The main bedroom was originally east of the parlor/living room. This area was converted into an open music room, creating an U-shaped configuration of the two spaces. This was done, as both Mrs. Paulding and her daughter, Ruth, were accomplished musicians. This made it necessary to convert the original dining room in the northwest corner of the house to a bedroom. The original placement of the kitchen was in the northeast corner of the house and was comprised of a wood burning stove and the necessary kitchen furnishings. After the wood-burning stove was removed around the 1910s and the separate kitchen addition was constructed, this area was redesigned to provide the 16 feet by 10 and 1/2 feet dining room that exists presently. A bead board wainscot that is capped by a chair rail ornaments the dining room. On both the south and north walls is a simple shelf molding that holds decorative china. On the west end of the north wall of the dining room is a built in china cabinet. The kitchen addition is typical of a simple 1910s culinary area, with built in cabinetry on the north wall, a suspended enamel sink and connected drain boards on the west wall under the windows, and a gas burning stove on the east wall. There has always been an entrance door in the northeast corner of the present dining room as access to the exterior. Currently, this door is not utilized and access for visitors is only through the front door entry at the top of the exterior porch.

In 1974 when Ruth Paulding had decided to bequeath the house to the San Luis Obispo County Historical Society, she determined that she wished to begin utilizing the house as a house museum immediately. She was the initial curator of the museum and in order to accommodate this use, she had the three bedrooms remodeled upstairs to TPR 523L (1/95)

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provide a complete living area that would be separate from the first floor. One of the bedrooms on the second floor was redesigned into both a bathroom and kitchenette. It was at this time that the skylights that are visible on the north roof were added. The other bedroom on the south above the music room and parlor/living room became her living quarters. In 1998, this south bedroom became the office for the Paulding History House where archival material and records of the museum inventory are kept. The entire interior of the first floor is ornamented, decorated and furnished with original objects and furnishings from the Paulding family that illustrate their lives, activities, and interests from 1891 - 1985.

This first floor area includes not only all items necessary for daily living, but artifacts from their travels, medical equipment, agricultural records and implements, musical instruments, journals and archival records, and educational accomplishments and materials, as well as archival photography that documents late 19th and early 20th Century life in the Arroyo Grande Valley. Presently, on the second floor, the south bedroom, has become the accessions library, with the west bedroom, bathroom, and kitchenette providing living space for the on-site, full-time caretaker.

The Paulding House was declared a local landmark by the City of Arroyo Grande through a resolution of the City Council on August 13, 2002 to further the South County Historical Society's plan for the "City-As-Museum" concept.

B10. Significance (Continued)

Historic Context

The subject property is located in the area referred to in a contemporary context as "The Five Cities" of California. These cities today consist of Shell Beach, Pismo Beach, Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach, and Oceano. The area was inhabited by the Chumash Native Americans prior to Spanish colonization the establishment of Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa in 1777. After desecularization in 1833, mission lands were divided into rancho tracts where large cattle-raising operations thrived. It was within this backdrop that Francis Ziba Branch settled in San Luis Obispo County in 1837. His holdings included part of the Corral De Piedra tract, part of the El Pismo tract, and the Bolsa De Chamisal, Huer Huero, and Arroyo Grande tracts, in which he raised cattle. Although the dry years of 1862-1864 caused the loss of some 70,000 heads of cattle, he went on to hold many public offices in the county and was at one time one of the wealthiest men in the area. Mr. Branch established the first school in Arroyo Grande, donating the land, erecting the building, securing the teacher, and paid all of the expenses the first year, after which he turned the school over to the county. The main thoroughfare of Arroyo Grande is named Branch Street in his honor. He set the foundation for other Anglo-American pioneers to further the development of the city and surrounding areas; and laid the cornerstone of an educational system.¹

The "Five Cities" area and Arroyo Grande in particular, continued to grow through the last years of the nineteenth century fueled by the industries of agriculture and tourism as a result of the close proximity of the ocean beaches. The establishment of the Pacific Coast Narrow Gauge Railroad (PCR) in the early 1880s was a major contribution to the growth of the local area. The Southern Pacific Railroad in 1904 connecting Southern and Central California with the northern Bay area made it possible for farmers and ranchers to get their produce to market overnight. This development brought an increase in population; and along with it, the medicinal and educational needs of that populace that would create the context environment of the early 1880s for the contributions of Dr. Edwin Lyttleton Paulding and Mrs. Clara Edwards Paulding to Arroyo Grande.

¹ Morrison, Annie, L. *Pioneers of San Luis Obispo County & Environs*. Friends of the Adobes, Inc. San Miguel, California. 2002

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Medical Context of San Luis Obispo County

The native Chumash and Salinan peoples of the Central Coast of California relied on age-old traditions of herbal medicine, bleedings, incantations, and on the area's many hot sulphur springs and mud baths. With the arrival of the Spanish colonizers, the Native Americans suffered the ravages of European diseases such as measles, smallpox, and syphilis. The padres stationed at the area's two missions, San Luis Obispo de Telosa and San Miguel Arcangel would, have provided what medical care there was from the Spanish. At the San Luis Obispo Mission, there were special hospital rooms for the Indian converts. The European-based medicine in those early days was a mix of age-old superstitions and new knowledge.

The Mexicans who settled on the large ranchos of the Californio Days that began with the secularization of the Missions in 1834 had to be largely self-sufficient, and this meant that every rancho had an herb garden. These herbs could be rubbed on wounds, made into plasters, or brewed into teas to treat a wide range of complaints. Even food, itself, was used as a medicine that could treat sinus problems, jaundice, and kidney ailments, to name a few.²

With the Gold Rush in 1848, thousands of fortune seekers came to California and this led to statehood in 1850. This brought people from the entire world and from all cultures. As the rich strikes were eventually exhausted, the rush was no longer for gold, but for land. San Luis Obispo County in the 1850s and 1860s was an isolated and dangerous place. Life expectancy was 50 years of age, typhoid and diphtheria were ever present and feared, ranching and farm work was never-ending and exhausting, with many people taken "before their time" by poisonings, burns, explosions, runaway horses, and farm or mining accidents.³

Settlements slowly grew larger and particularly the agriculture-based towns of San Luis Obispo and Arroyo Grande, along with the lumber and mining economy of Cambria. Among the new arrivals were those who would bring a different level of health care to county residents. It was still an age when germ theory was not appreciated, when the use of ether in anesthesia was in its infancy, and when antibiotics were unknown. In the mixture of art and science that made up medical care, there was still more art than science, but the balance was beginning to shift.⁴

In 1866, Dr. William Willams Hays arrived in San Luis Obispo County and was the first Anglo physician to establish himself in permanent practice. When the Civil War had broken out, he joined the Union Army as an assistant surgeon. However, he had married a southern Virginia girl named Sarah Susan Parks and was transferred to the Presidio in California. He decided to permanently settle in the town of San Luis Obispo. He was very active in the social institutions of the city and was a member of the Masons, the Odd Fellows, and the National Guard. He was also active on the City Board of Health and the California Medical Society and was elected Coroner of the City of San Luis Obispo. He established a clean water system in the town and helped strengthen the sanitary laws regarding the disposal of germ-infested sewage. He eventually was instrumental is creating the first County Hospital and Farm in 1879.⁵

In the early years of the 1860s and 1870s, only a local woman named Mrs. Ernest Ketchum was available to deliver

² Mounts, William, Dr. *Early Champions in Health, San Luis Obispo County, 1866 to 1900* The San Luis Obispo Medical Society. September 21, 2000

³ Ibid, Page 2

⁴ Ibid, Page 2

⁵ Ibid, Page 4

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a baby, there being no resident doctor. However, in 1883, Dr. Edwin Lyttleton Paulding arrived and was the first college educated doctor to establish a permanent and regular practice in Arroyo Grande and surrounding areas. Many of his patients were homesteaders, with no cash to speak of, and sometimes when they came in from quite a distance, his wife Clara ended up boarding the patient and their whole family. Dr. Paulding frequently had to accept payment in chickens, eggs, beans, or potatoes. The Paulding home became the first hospital in Arroyo Grande and their ailments and afflictions included bronchitis, cerebral congestion, cirrhosis, dyspepsia, epilepsy, hemophlegia, kidney disease, neuralgia, phthisis, pneumonia, syphilis, and varicose veins, along with the common flu (or la grippe) and the delivering of babies. Nursing practice at the hospital was conducted by Mrs. Paulding and incorporated the recommendations of Florence Nightingale in her 1868 "Notes on Nursing: What it Is, and What It <u>Is Not,</u>" stressing the importance of observation. ⁶ Having so capable a physician in the Arroyo Grande area and a rudimentary local hospital for treatment, allowed the city to grow and prosper by keeping the populace healthy and The agricultural industries and their related ancillary businesses were greatly benefited by Dr. Paulding's local presence, making it unnecessary to travel the distance to San Luis Obispo in time of medical need. The Paulding History House today serves as house a museum that contains Dr. Paulding's medical tools and instruments, journals, articles, treatments, and archives giving an extraordinary comprehension to life and medical science in the South County in the late19th and early 20th Centuries.

Dr. Edwin Lyttleton Paulding, M. D.

In 1883, Thirty-two years after California became a state, and ten years before the County Medical Society was chartered was established, Edwin Lyttleton Paulding, M. D., became the first physician to establish his practice permanently in the South County and the city of Arroyo Grande. As previously outlined, prior to these dates, public health care was in the hands of, and limited to the resources available at, the local Mexican Ranchos. The appearance of a college educated, licensed medical doctor, in the latter quarter of the Nineteenth Century, brought a change in the art of medicine to the area.⁷

Edwin Lyttleton Paulding was born on December 16, 1849 in Damascus, Syria. His father was a medical missionary in that foreign land. As a young physician, Dr. Joseph Paulding had treated one of the Harper brothers of Harper Brothers Publishing when he had become ill in Damascus. The senior Dr. Paulding would not charge for his services and so Harper sent him several dozen leather-bound volumes of Harper's Magazines, beginning with Volume I, No. I. The family continued to receive them every year until the turn of the 20th century and they are in the Paulding History House today. When his father came to realize his family needed an American education, he and his family returned to the United States. When Edwin grew to manhood, he followed in his father's footsteps and studied medicine, working his way through the Ohio State Medical College in Cincinnati, Ohio (1882) and served a year as intern in the Good Samaritan hospital of that city. While interning at the college, he treated an official of the railroad who was so grateful for his services that he presented the young Dr. Paulding with a pass on the railroad to California. He landed in San Francisco. Her took a steamer to Port Harford in Port San Luis, where he boarded the Pacific Coast Railroad to go to Los Alamos where a classmate had settled. As the train passed through Arroyo Grande, he was amazed at the abundance of the bounty of agriculture in the area. He wrote to his sister "the pumpkins were so plentiful that you could run across the field on them and not touch your foot to the

⁶ Ibid, Page 5

⁷ Ibid, Page 6

⁸ Krieger, Dan. *Historian Finds Enduring Truth In Paulding Memories*. San Luis Obispo Telegram-Tribune newspaper. San Luis Obispo, California. December 28, 1985

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ground once." He always said that first impression was why he located permanently in Arroyo Grande. He felt if people could grow pumpkins like that, they could afford to pay a doctor. The letters to his sister, Tene, paint vivid pictures of the life and times of Arroyo Grande and San Luis Obispo County from the last quarter of the nineteenth century to the first few years of the twentieth century; and they are all accessible in the archives of the Paulding History House.

The context of the medical profession at the time of Dr. Paulding's arrival in Arroyo Grande was during the infancy of the acceptance of the germ theory as the cause of infectious diseases; immunizations practically unused and antibiotics, unknown. It was a time prior to the advent of X-ray, and anesthesia was only just beginning to be used. Medical science as we know it today was yet to be. Dr. Paulding's first patient was a child with the dreaded diphtheria and the only comfort he could offer to the parents was to hold the child's hand while the little one suffocated from the natural course of the malady. This was a devastating beginning, however, he did recover and a short time later he reported that his practice had grown to the point of providing him an income of \$2,000 in money, or its equivalent, for the year. He had persuaded his brothers, Ormond and Will Paulding, to join him in Arroyo Grande and so in addition to his private medical practice, Dr. Edwin Paulding and his brothers invested in and owned a pharmacy. Dr. Paulding's first residence and medical office was in the Ryan Hotel in the town of Arroyo Grande, however, he only practiced there a few weeks. He then established an office in a rented room on Branch Street, the main thoroughfare in the village of Arroyo Grande. After marriage and moving into the Paulding House on Crown Hill, he established his office in a room in back of the local pharmacy less than a mile from the home and settled down to practice medicine and raise his family.

Dr. Edwin L. Paulding had met local schoolteacher, Clara Edwards, shortly after he arrived in Arroyo Grande in 1883. They married on November 13, 1889 and in 1891, they purchased the Folk Victorian Farm House now known as the Paulding History House from James Morrison, a local carpenter who had constructed the house in 1889. Their first child was a stillborn son who died in 1890 because of profuse hemorrhaging on the part of Mrs. Paulding. Their second child was a daughter named Ruth who was born in the house in 1892 and lived there until her passing in 1985. It was their daughter, Ruth, who donated the house and all its contents for the benefit of the community to serve as a house museum and educational center. Dr. Paulding was a very talented artist and wood carver. He is responsible for the intricate carvings in the fireplace mantel in the house, as well as several pieces of furniture.

During Dr. Paulding's many years of service to the community through the practice of medicine he pioneered the latest uses of scientific advancements with his patients and stayed on the cutting edge of medical progress. He made a profound study of the causes and cure of sick headaches, which was published in a medical journal. It was considered one of the most expert analyses of this malady of that time period. He carved a unique specialty in the area of healing broken bones and the prevention of infection from this trauma. Local lore recounts many occasions when farmers would drive from very long distances to have only Dr. Paulding attend to broken bones or administer amputations after a farm or ranch accident. He was both a specialist and a general practitioner, treating everything from the common cold to spinal meningitis. The Paulding home basically became the first hospital in the city of Arroyo Grande. Families would travel from all parts of the area to have Dr. Paulding treat one of their members and

⁹ Hubbard, Jean. Fertile Valley Gives AG Pioneer Second Career. Echoes Column. Telegraph-Tribune Newspaper. December 1985. Arroyo Grande

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

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the Pauldings would open their home to both the patient and family members until the illness had passed. During the Flu Epidemic, beds were set up everywhere possible in the Paulding home, while Dr. and Mrs. Paulding, as well as local volunteers, took care of the victims of this illness. Once again, the Paulding home served as a hospital, for the townspeople were gripped with fear and did not want any public buildings used to care for the sick. 12

Dr. Edwin Paulding was a man of many interests and shared his interests with the growing community of Arroyo Grande. He was a very early proponent of what he called "natural medicine" and today we would call it homeopathic remedies. He wrote many articles for medical journals and one such was entitled "Rational Therapeutics vs. Drugs". In this article he argued that drugs should be used very sparingly and that "nature's methods, the use of her forces, diet, rest, exercise massage, electricity, heat, cold, water treatments, movement cures, if need be surgery, leave no bad after effects and that the system will respond to proper treatment." He was a student of Etiology, the study of the causes of disease and pathologies. This study guided his practice to focus on the source of the ailment and not just the symptomatic effects. He stressed the use of moderation in all things to maintain health and in this article he stated, "tea, coffee, tobacco, and even alcohol itself, have not been proved hurtful to the human system when not used to great excess." He was a practicing Seventh Day Adventist and skillfully combined spiritual principles with common sense medical practice. ¹³

In addition to medicine, he was very involved with the community. On several occasions he would be a financial benefactor to young families getting a start. For many years, he was in charge of the signal station for the Weather Bureau and wrote a weekly article for the Arroyo Grande Herald that always ended with a note from the editor stating, "What Dr. Paulding says on climate can be relied upon." He would weave the temperate climate of the area with comments on how it benefited the health of its inhabitants. His interests included artistic endeavors that lead to woodcarving and furniture design. The many travels he took with his family were revealed in the artifacts he would bring back with him on return to Arroyo Grande and they are still on display in the Paulding History House. One of his interests outside of medicine provided the foundation for his agricultural contributions to the community.

This last primary interest and talent he possessed was the scientific and practical study of Botany as applied to farming. His decision to settle permanently in Arroyo Grande had been based upon the extraordinary healthful agricultural conditions of the area as evidenced by the proliferation of pumpkins. Therefore, the study of Botany was a natural outgrowth of the study and practice of medicine. It was the result of an accident in 1908 that opened the door for him to engage in the full time attention and cultivation of this interest. While doing construction work on his house, he fell on the cement walk and was in a coma for three days. As a result of the injury, his memory was impaired and he could not retain medical terms and procedures so he was forced to retire from his medical profession of 25 years. A serendipitous windfall of \$1,500 from an insurance settlement over an accident with his wife and daughter and the Pacific Coast Railroad made it possible for him to purchase a small farm within one mile of the Paulding House. Not content to merely grow established crops, he made a study and science of experimental cross breeding of plants. He carried on a mutual correspondence with the noted botanist, Luther Burbank, who lived in Santa Rosa, California. Their letters were full of the subjects of exotic flowering plants and improving vegetable strains and they frequently exchanged roots and seeds to further their interests and experimentations. He produced a

¹² Krieger, Dan. Historian Finds Enduring Truth In Paulding Memories. San Luis Obispo Telegram-Tribune newspaper. San Luis Obispo, California. December 28, 1985

¹³ Paulding, Edwin, L. Dr. Rational Therapeutics vs. Drugs. Article written for the St. Helena Sanitarium Medical Meeting. Undated. Arroyo Grande, California

¹⁴ Paulding, E. L., M.D. *The Arroyo Grande Herald Saturday Edition*. The Arroyo Grande Herald, Arroyo Grande. California. May 21, 1896

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new strain of corn called "California Sweet Corn" and managed to breed a type of corn that would yield popcorn the size of a walnut. He also worked to improve the quality of "Green Peas" as they were a substantial crop in the Arroyo Grande Valley at that time. His experiments in cross-pollination produced a new strain of squash that weighted 20 to 30 pounds. As he did with medicine, he wrote numerous articles publishing his findings and experiments to share and educate others. He continued farming until three days before his death on February 23, 1935 at the age of 85. 15

Dr. Edwin Lyttleton Paulding permanent settlement in Arroyo Grande in 1883 gave the community a medical foundation upon which to further grow and develop. In 1885, Dr. Charles Clark settled in the area and focused his practice on being a "baby doctor". Both he and Dr. Paulding spent their lifetimes in Arroyo Grande caring for the ill and Dr. Clark passed away at his home on Branch Street in 1918. There were other doctors who came to town briefly, such as Dr. Kelsey and Dr. Knowlton, but they found that Dr. Paulding and Dr. Clark had deeply entrenched clientele and they moved on to San Luis Obispo. However, it is Dr. Paulding that is considered by the local historians as the pioneer physician of the city of Arroyo Grande. This place of honor is bestowed upon him because of his involvement in the community, his trail-blazing efforts in medicine and agriculture, and for that, he stands alone at the local level as a founding member of the coming of the modern age of the community.

Mrs. Clara Edwards Paulding

Clara Edwards Paulding was born in Bath, New York on August 21, 1855. Her ancestor, the Reverend Jonathan Edwards, was an early President of Princeton College in New Jersey, so that even her ancestral roots were firmly planted in education. She was the daughter of a Presbyterian minister, who, until the Civil War, had been a missionary to the Choctaw Indians in Oklahoma. She won her first teaching certificate at 15 years of age, but her parents would not consent to her accepting a public school teaching position. She then took courses at Mills Seminary, which became Mills College in Oakland, one of the oldest institutions of higher education for women in the United States. ¹⁷ She graduated from Mills in 1873 and then taught in private school until she was 18. Her teaching career was interrupted with the illness of her mother contracting cancer and she moved back to Oakland to care for her. After her mother passed away, she took a governess position in Hawaii for two consecutive families. She returned from the islands in 1883 and wanted to join her father in Oklahoma, but was told not to come because of an outbreak of Malaria. Needing a temporary position for a period of a year, she went to the Superintendent of schools in Oakland and asked if he knew of any country school she could have for one term. He replied that they needed a teacher in Arroyo Grande and that she would have to give him an answer immediately as the boat was leaving early the next day and the class was to begin on the following Monday. After hesitating for only a moment, she made a decision that changed the course of the rest of her life and said simply. "I'll go."

In 1883, Arroyo Grande had been in existence for about 16 years. Besides the Ryan Hotel where Dr. Edwin Paulding first stayed upon arrival in that same year, there were 11 saloons, a blacksmith shop, general merchandise store, post office, butcher shop, a livery stable, harness shop and two boarding houses. Many of these structures are still in existence today with adaptive reuses that comprise the Village of Arroyo Grande. She boarded with the Rice family and began work as a teacher of the local school. Arroyo Grande School was then just two rooms with an annex in back. She was both teacher and janitor, and thus began her life-long championship for better education for

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¹⁵ Hubbard, Jean. Fertile Valley Gives AG Pioneer Second Career. Echoes Column. Telegraph-Tribune Newspaper. December 1985. Arroyo Grande

¹⁶ Ditmas, Madge. Notable Doctors Help – Dr. C. S. Clark. According to Madge, Pioneers. Arroyo Grande, California. 1997

¹⁷ Wikipedia. *Mills College*

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the children of the area. 18

One of her first projects that benefited the community as a whole was the foundation of a library. Arroyo Grande's absence of such a facility inspired her to organize a Mother Goose Show that was staged in the Old Union Hall. All the mothers helped with the costumes and the event was largely attended which raised a good deal of money for the purchase of books. She continued to act as librarian and foster the growth of a library system in the town for many years afterward.

She had met Dr. Paulding the year she came to Arroyo Grande, however, it would not be until November of 1889 that she and the doctor would become husband and wife. All the while she was one of two teachers in the Arroyo Grande Grammar School. She also taught in the Branch, Huasna, and Santa Manuela schools, eventually becoming principal of the Arroyo Grande Elementary School for several years. She taught eight different grades simultaneously and was never too tired to help some child after school with lessons, or to give extra music instruction, as she was an accomplished musician.

After her marriage, she and Dr. Paulding lived in several houses in the Arroyo Grande Village. In 1890, she gave birth to a stillborn son. The following year, she and Dr. Paulding purchased the Folk Victorian Farm House on Crown Hill that had been constructed by James Morrison in 1889. Prior to moving in, Mrs. Paulding insisted that she wanted a genuine fireplace in the corner of the living room where a pot-bellied stove was placed. Mr. Morrison obliged and at a later date that is unknown, a patient of Dr. Paulding's, Mr. Charles Crannell, paid his medical bill by installing the redwood surround on the breast of the fireplace hearth. Shortly after moving in, the Pauldings made some basic changes in the configuration of the first floor rooms. The area east of the living room was the original bedroom of the first floor. They converted it to a music room. Then to obtain the bedroom they had lost in this conversion, they transformed the original dining room into the first floor bedroom. Additionally, Mrs. Paulding had always wanted an indoor bathroom, so what had been a closet off the original bedroom became this facility. The original kitchen was in the northeast corner of the first floor where the dining room exists today. In the 1910s, a separate kitchen addition was built on the north side of the house, making the way for the formal dining room. It was in the reconverted bedroom in September of 1892 that their daughter, Ruth Paulding, was born in the very same ornately carved mahogany bed that adorns the space presently.

One of the most notable contributions to the educational development of Arroyo Grande and surrounding areas by Mrs. Paulding was her determined campaign to establish a high school. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, there was no educational bridge to assist students to go to college, as there was a gap between grammar school and the universities unless parents could afford four years at a preparatory school. Through her efforts, a high school district was formed and she was appointed a trustee, a position she held from 1893 to 1899 and then repeated in 1910 through 1919. The first Arroyo Grande High School was constructed in 1906 on Crown Hill a short distance from the Paulding residence. She opened her home to students who wished to enroll at the high school, but lived great distances that would have prevented them from regularly attending the school. Her dedication to the high school was such that when an influenza epidemic struck Arroyo Grande and an official wanted the Red Cross to convert the Arroyo Grande High School into a hospital, she opened her home as a temporary hospital. The Pauldings cared for the patients all day and slept at their farm nearby for the duration. More than 50 people were treated in the house

¹⁸ Hubbard, Jean. *Paulding Family History Wrapped Up in Education*. Five Cities Times-Press-Recorder, Arroyo Grande, California. March 9, 1988

¹⁹ Paulding, Ruth. *The Gallant Lady*. Hubbard Printing. Arroyo Grande, California 1947

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and not one death occurred. Having assisted her husband on many occasions as a nurse, she offered this service and additionally manned the kitchen to help feed the patients. The high school remained in the service of education because of her effort during this time.²⁰

Clara Paulding was a social activist in addition to her educational endeavors. At the time that the Pauldings moved into Arroyo Grande they were both appalled at the large number of saloons for such a small town. She had a great concern for the amount of alcohol being consumed and became an active member of the local Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU). The WCTU was founded in November of 1874 in Cleveland, Ohio and quickly spread across the nation. Mrs. Paulding was among those responsible for the growth of the local branch in the town.²¹

The WCTU was intrinsically linked to the suffragette movement for the right of women to vote. The crusade against alcohol was a protest by women, in part, for their lack of civil rights. Women could not vote. In most states women could not have control of their property or custody of their children in case of divorce. There were no legal protections for women and children, prosecutions for rape were rare, and the state-regulated "age of consent" was as low as seven.²² Mrs. Paulding became a leader in the local area for her determination to provide voting rights for all women. By 1896, the local Methodist Church announced at a WCTU meeting that Mrs. Paulding was one of the women to be looked to as a leader of the women's suffrage movement. Clara Paulding and two other women were asked to create a special edition of the newspaper exclusively devoted to the creation of the Eleventh Amendment to the Constitution of California supporting the right of women to vote. They presented their side of the suffrage question to the public in the local Herald Newspaper on Saturday, October 31, 1896.²³ Led by Mrs. Paulding, the group was able to persuade Susan B. Anthony to extend a San Luis Obispo trip and speak on the need for women's suffrage from the steps of a car of the narrow gauge railroad that ran through the town in Arroyo Grande. They were also instrumental in facilitating Sarah Severance to speak at the Union Hall of Arroyo Grande. Ms. Severance, who was the State Superintendent of the Franchise Department of the WCTU, has the distinction of being the first woman to vote once suffrage passed in California in 1911. Years later, Clara Edwards Paulding would become a charter and founding member of the Woman's Club of Arroyo Grande, part of the California Federation of Woman's Clubs.²⁴

She continued to teach until she was 71 years of age. During that time, she had been a librarian, school district trustee, school board member, teacher, and principal. The income from teaching assisted with the mortgage of the Paulding House. As she preferred teaching at country schools, she would board during the week and come home on the weekends. When at last her daughter Ruth finished college and came home to teach locally, they had a car and she could come home every evening. In 1935, Ruth took the summer off and took her mother with her as they traveled the United States. As was her custom, Ruth would take summer classes at one of the colleges or universities. As her mother got older, Ruth didn't like leaving her alone during these times. In 1946 she convinced her mother to return to Mills College for her summer classes and from which her mother had graduated 75 years earlier. The college was quick to capitalize on the publicity of a 91 year-old woman returning to campus and notable magazines like *Time* and *American* interviewed her. All the wire services carried the story and educational

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Women's Christian Temperance Union website. *Early History*. http://wctu.org/earlyhistory.html

²² Ibid

²³ Paulding, Clara. *Their Views*. Arroyo Grande Herald newspaper. Arroyo Grande, California. October 31, 1896

²⁴ Staff. Ruth Paulding Native of Arroyo, Will Reign Over Harvest Festival. Arroyo Grande Valley Herald-Recorder, Arroyo Grade, California 1961

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magazines across the nation printed the report. Most gratifying to Mrs. Paulding were the calls from her old students from all parts of the nation that included a retired judge in Philadelphia, a professor in New York, and doctors in Chicago and New Orleans. The responses came in even from as far away as Canada and Chile.

Shortly after this trip, she passed her 91st birthday in August of 1946 and was filled with elation over the full circle satisfaction of the trip to Mills College. On Christmas Day of that year, she quietly passed away in the Paulding House, leaving a legacy of education and social contributions to the town of Arroyo Grande; a town in which that she had only intended to inhabit for the course of a single term of teaching.²⁵

The Paulding's daughter, Ruth, was born in the house on September 30, 1892. She resided in this structure for 93 years, with the only exception being the 19 years from 1920 to 1939 when she moved to the town of Watsonville, California to teach at the high school. Like her mother, she followed and excelled in the field of education. But, her greatest contribution to the city of Arroyo Grande and the County of San Luis Obispo was that she served as the founding inspiration and activist for the collection and curation of the history of both the city and the county. She was one of its earliest historic preservationist and was a co-founder of both the San Luis Obispo County Historical Society and the South County Historical Society, as well as being responsible for the donation of the Paulding House and all its archival artifacts and information to that preservation organization created to be the on-going repository of the history of Arroyo Grande and surrounding areas.

In the mid 1970s, she determined that the house in which she had been born and lived in would become a living house museum. She had kept the Paulding home much the way it was when she was a young girl, adding the artifacts and archival documents that chronicled the life and achievements of her parents. A cousin had been sending her a monetary gift on a yearly basis. She took the money and employed several Cal Poly Architecture students to change one of the upstairs bedrooms into a bath and kitchenette for a resident curator. She was the first curator of the house and moved upstairs to use the second floor as living space and an office for the purpose of creating an on-going library of archival documentation and provenance. By doing this, the first floor of the house could be utilized by the public as a house museum during her lifetime. She created a life estate in 1978 that transferred ownership of the house and grounds to the San Luis Obispo County Historical Society with a provision that allowed her to live on the property until her passing. After her death in 1985, the San Luis Obispo County Historical Society maintained the home for public use with the assistance of the local South County Historical Society. In 1998, official responsibility and ownership was transferred permanently to the South County Historical Society.

Integrity Statement

The subject property was evaluated against the seven aspects of integrity as outlined in the California Code of Regulations, California Register of Historical Resources (*Title 14*, *Division 3*, *Chapter 11.5*, *Section 4852 (C)*. The seven aspects of integrity include location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

The evaluated structure retains its original *location* and has not been moved.

²⁵ Hubbard, Jean. *Paulding Family History Wrapped Up In Education*. Five Cities Times Press Recorder. Arroyo Grande, California. 1988

²⁶ Certificate of Death. Ruth Paulding. Doc. No. 0702303. Official Records, San Luis Obispo County, CA. Dec. 4, 1985

²⁷ Hubbard, Jean. *Paulding History House – Summary*. Curator, Paulding History House. Arroyo Grande, CA

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The original *design* of the exterior footprint of the structure remains intact, with the only exception being the kitchen addition on the non-primary façade and was undertaken by the Paulding family in the late 1910s. The fenestration and all the trim elements are original. The horizontal wood shiplap siding is original. The multi-gabled ended roof has been replaced several times by the Pauldings, and was recently replaced by the applicant in 2003 with new wooden shingles that replicated the original roof of the first fifty years of its existence. The hipped roof that covers the front porch is original. The only change to this area is a handrail with balustrades that was added in 2000 for the safety of the visitors to the house museum. The foundation is original local sandstone rock, bonded with cement mortar and is still visible on all elevations. The foundation of the porch is also original, however, common red brick was applied to the existing exterior in order to strengthen and support this area as part of the on-going maintenance conducted by the Paulding family because of the large amount of foot traffic it was receiving. The present concrete steps are also attributed to the Paulding family's repair. The interior footprint and character defining elements (i.e., floor and window trims, staircase, and fireplace mantel, etc.) are original to the house and within the Period of Significance. The interior floor plan was altered at the request of Mrs. Paulding in 1891 with the conversion of the hall closet into a bathroom. Within the first 10 years of the 20th Century, Mrs. Paulding transformed the east front bedroom into a music room. Around 1910, the north porch was enclosed to become a kitchen. The old kitchen became the dining room and the original dining room became the first floor bedroom. Ruth Paulding altered the interior of the second floor footprint in the 1970s when she decided to vacate the first floor and live on the second floor so that the house could become a house museum during her lifetime. The northeast bedroom of the second floor was divided and became a bathroom and kitchen area. It was at this time that the skylights were installed on the north roof for additional interior light. The positions of the south facing and west facing bedrooms are intact and original. These bedrooms served as her living quarters and storage. Today, the south facing bedroom contains the archives of the Paulding History House. The west-facing bedroom serves as the quarters for the on-site caretaker. Therefore, it can be said that the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of this property are intact and convey integrity of design. All interior re-arrangement was conducted by members of the Paulding family and took place during the Period of Significance, 1891 to 1985.

The original *setting* of the structure was that of twelve adjoining lots on the top of Crown Hill in Arroyo Grande. As mentioned, the subject property is on its original location. The surrounding lots were undeveloped until the 1970s when Ruth Paulding retired and needed an income to support her modest lifestyle, as well as a financial foundation for the house museum concept. At that time, the adjacent lots were subdivided into five lots with the first four being sold and the fifth containing the Paulding House. The subsequent housing constructed on the four adjoining lots were set far back on the hill with the circular driveway separating them from the Paulding House and providing access to the parking area on the elevated west end of the Paulding property. Therefore, the original setting is somewhat compromised, however, because of the positioning of the Paulding House that is near the access entry to the property and the surrounding oak trees and gardens that are still intact, the property retains the integrity of the topographic features of being on the hill, the vegetation, the front path to the house, and the isolation of the structure from more recent construction.

The majority of the *materials* present on the exterior of the subject property are original. They include the foundation, the horizontal wood shiplap siding, the fenestration and trims, the roof of the front porch, all of the decorative vertical trims on the corners of the exterior elevations and the ornamental wood designs on the east and west gable ends. The addition of the skylights on the north roof elevation and the addition of the kitchen on the north elevation were conducted by the Pauldings during the Period of Significance. The maintenance and safety issues that necessitated the roof tile replacement and porch handrail were added after the Period of Significance; however, they do not convey a false sense of history and are removable. The majority of the physical elements TPR 523L (1/95)

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combined to create the structure in the particular period of time that it was built is intact and convey a sense of integrity of materials.

The *workmanship* present in both the interior and exterior of the structure conveys the vernacular methods of construction of a simple Folk Victorian Farm House of the late nineteenth century. The plain finishes of the exterior, as well as those of the interior, express the common techniques and traditions of this time period. The simplicity of the interior design and spare trim details are examples of this era and this genre. The most ornamental features of the interior are the fireplace surround and mantel that is executed in the Eastlake Victorian style, and the staircase balustrade that is constructed in the Victorian influenced Chippendale style. These features are evidence of the technologies and style preferences of the era in which the house was constructed and are also within the Period of Significance. The integrity of workmanship is intact and original.

The *feeling* expressed by the interior and exterior present physical features convey the property's historic character. The majority of both the exterior and interior character-defining elements of the primary structure are intact and original and convey the integrity of feeling; that being, a simple Folk Victorian Farm House of the late nineteenth century that served as a residence for a significant family and their contributions to the local community. This feeling is greatly enhanced by the presence on the first floor of the original furniture, artifacts, and archival material from the Pauldings habitation of the house and serves the purpose of being a house museum. These items are not permanently affixed to their locations, but if all these pieces were removed, the feeling of the Period of Significance would remain because of the present original and intact construction features of the building.

Of all of the aspects of integrity, the seventh aspect of *association* is the most outstanding. This simple nineteenth century residence is a direct link to the locally significant persons of Dr. Edwin Lyttleton Paulding and Mrs. Clara Edwards Paulding. It is within the confines of this particular structure that the contributions the Pauldings made in the areas of medicine, education, social and cultural history of the town of Arroyo Grande. The structure is sufficiently intact to convey the relationship of the house to the Pauldings to an outside observer. It is the physical location that Dr. Paulding formulated his medical theories and wrote his contributing articles in both the fields of medicine and agriculture. The house served as a hospital on several occasions. The structure is the location where Clara Edwards Paulding prepared for her field of teaching, gave instructions and boarding to students to further their educations, created her campaign for a local high school and library, and gathered the local supporters of the Suffragette Movement, as well as writing articles in support of that social reform. The home is the birthplace of their daughter, Ruth Paulding; and is the location of her preparation for the field of education. It is the physical arena that led her to understand the importance of the archiving and curation of the family's contribution to the history of Arroyo Grande. It is the place in which she formed the foundational concepts of the San Luis Obispo County Historical Society, the South County Historical Society, and the creation of the Paulding History House as a house museum.

The primary significance of the subject property is associated with Criterion 2 of the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) for its association with significant persons on the local level. The basic integrity test for a property associated with an important event or person is whether a historical contemporary would recognize the property, as it exists today. The subject property would easily pass this test. The integrity of the evaluated building is good and the condition of the evaluated building is good and it meets the seven aspects of integrity.

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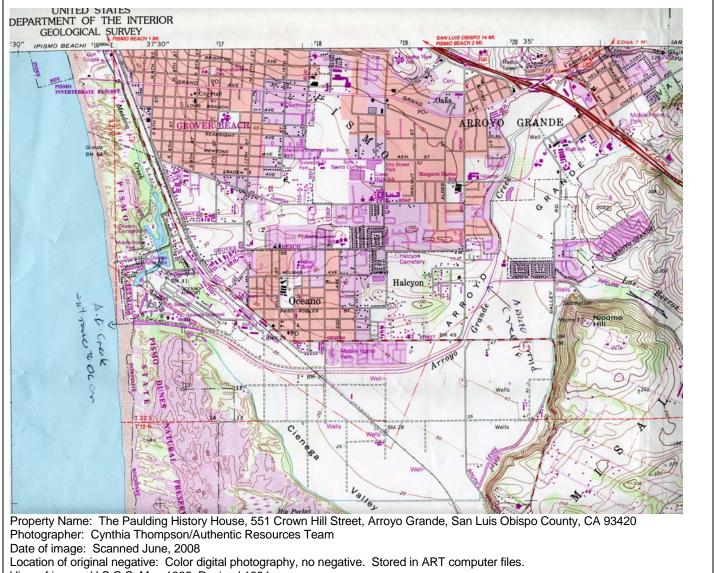
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Maps Exterior and Interior

This series of maps are reproduced from various sources and illustrate the spatial relationships of both the exterior and interior of the Paulding History House and surrounding landscape and geographical areas



View of image: U.S.G.S. Map 1965, Revised 1994

Maps Exterior and Interior-U.S.G.S. 7.5 Quad Map 1965, Revised 1994/Scale 1:24 000

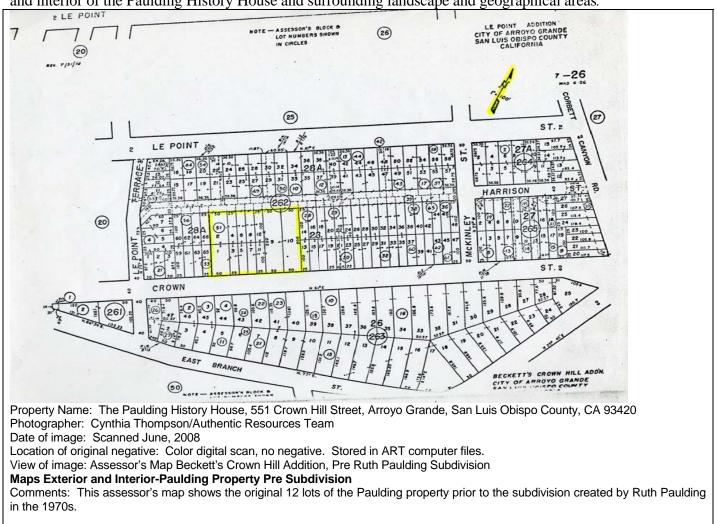
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Maps Exterior and Interior (Continued)

This series of maps are reproduced from various sources and illustrate the spatial relationships of both the exterior and interior of the Paulding History House and surrounding landscape and geographical areas.



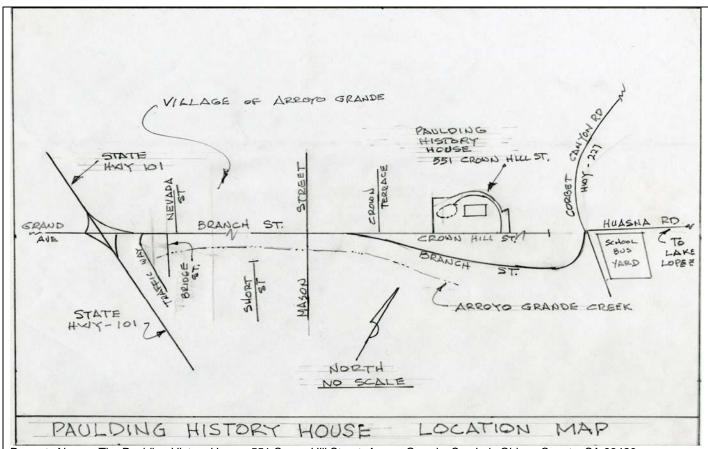
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Maps Exterior and Interior (Continued)

This series of maps are reproduced from various sources and illustrate the spatial relationships of both the exterior and interior of the Paulding History House and surrounding landscape and geographical areas



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of image: Scanned June, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital scan, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of image: Sketch Map Showing Relationship of Paulding Property to Village of Arroyo Grande

Photograph #8 Maps Exterior and Interior-Sketch Map Paulding House to Village of Arroyo Grande

Comments: This sketch map is drawn to illustrate the approximate relationship of the Paulding History House to the Village of Arroyo Grande. A visual spatial relationship is illustrated in Historic Photo #7, Village of Arroyo Grande/Paulding House c. 1900

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Historic Archival Photography

This series of historic archival photos are reproduced from the family album of pictures that is on file in the office of the Paulding History House. They are being reproduced with the permission of the South County Historical Society for the purpose of this nomination to the California Register of Historical Resources.



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Unknown

Date of photograph: Approximately 1893, based upon the age of Ruth Paulding.

Location of original negative: Paulding History House Office Archives, reproduced from original photo/no negative

View of photograph: Photo taken facing NE illustrating the southwest elevations

Comments: This photography is facing NE illustrating the southwest elevations of the house. Mrs. Clara Edwards Paulding is holding Ruth Paulding, the man is Dr. Edwin L. Paulding. This photo shows all the original elements of the house and that they are virtually unchanged since that time.

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Historic Archival Photography (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Unknown

Date of photograph: Approximately 1908.

Location of original negative: Paulding History House Office Archives, reproduced from original photo/no negative

View of photograph: Photo taken facing N illustrating the south facing original entry and stairs of porch.

Comments: This photography is facing N illustrating the south entry and porch stairs. The couple is Dr. Edwin Lyttleton Paulding and Mrs. Clara Edwards Paulding.

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Historic Archival Photography (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Unknown

Date of photograph: Approximately 1908, reproduced and used as a postcard postmarked June 1908.

Location of original negative: Paulding History House Office Archives, reproduced from original photo/no negative

View of photograph: Photo taken facing NE illustrating the southwest elevations

Comments: This photography is facing NE illustrating the southwest elevations of the house. This photo was used as a postcard and shows mature landscaping, however, the basic character-defining elements are unchanged.

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Historic Archival Photography (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Unknown

Date of photograph: This photo is marked 1909 in the book The Gallant Lady, authored by Ruth Paulding.

Location of original negative: Paulding History House Office Archives, reproduced from original photo/no negative

View of photograph: Interior of the NE corner of the living room illustrating the fireplace.

Comments: This photography is facing the NE corner of the living room and illustrated the ornately carved fireplace mantel. The man is Dr. Edwin Lyttleton Paulding and he was responsible for hand carving the intricate design of the fireplace surround.

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Historic Archival Photography (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420 Photographer: Unknown

Date of photograph: Approximately 1909, based upon other family pictures taken in that year.

Location of original negative: Paulding History House Office Archives, reproduced from original photo/no negative

View of photograph: Interior of living room facing south.

Comments: This photography is facing S from the north wall of the living room. It illustrates the original placement of the windows from the interior. The date of the photograph is an estimate based upon a series of like pictures of both the exterior and the interior of the house with family members.

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Historic Archival Photography (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Unknown

Date of photograph: The photo is marked approximately 1895, based on the age of Ruth Paulding.

Location of original negative: Paulding History House Office Archives, reproduced from original photo/no negative View of photograph: Photo taken facing W illustrating the south elevation showing the original sandstone foundation.

Comments: This photography is facing W illustrating the front of the south elevation that clearly shows the original sandtone foundation that is

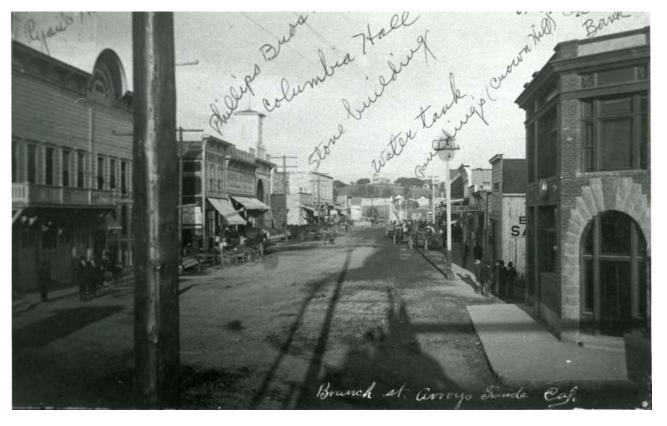
still present. Ruth Paulding appears to be about 3 years old in the photo, placing the time period at 1895.

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Historic Archival Photography (Continued)



Branch Street, the main thoroughfare of the village of Arroyo Grande, circa 1900.

Photographer: Unknown

Location of original negative: Paulding History House Office Archives, reproduced from original photo/no negative

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Interior Images

This series of color digital photography was taken by the consultant in May of 2008 as part of the contemporary documentation for the preparation of this nomination of the Paulding History House to the California Register of Historical Resources.



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: Interior showing stairs directly north of the entry door.

Photograph #6Color Digital Photos 2008

Comments: This photography is facing the NE illustrating the interior staircase with original wood trims and Victorian Chippendale influenced balustrade. This view is directly northeast of the entry door and is the first character-defining feature seen as you enter the interior.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files. View of photograph: Interior opposite view from Color Digital photo #6, facing W showing hallway.

Photograph #7Color Digital Photos 2008

Comments: This photography is facing the W and is the opposite view from Color Digital photo #6 illustrating the hallway that divides the mid-section of the first floor.

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Continuation Update

Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files. View of photograph: Interior view of NE corner of living room showing original fireplace mantel & surround

Photograph #8Color Digital Photos 2008

Comments: This photography is facing the NE corner of the living room and is included for comparison with Historic Photo #6 where Dr. Paulding is pictured sitting in front of this feature in 1909. This shows in greater detail the intricate carving done by Dr. Edwin Lyttleton Paulding.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files. View of photograph: Interior view of N wall of living room showing case with medical library and devices.

Photograph #9Color Digital Photos 2008

Comments: This photography is facing the N wall of the living room showing the case with the medical library and instruments used by Dr. Edwin L. Paulding in his practice. Although the case is not an architectural feature of the house, this type of interior picture will be included in the Museum Artifact Photo Section to illustrate the educational nature of the house museum to the public.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: Interior of living room facing south.

Photograph #10Color Digital Photos 2008

Comments: This photography is facing the SE from the north wall of the living room at the opening from the hallway. This photo is for comparison with Historic Photo #5 showing that the interior footprint is unchanged since at least 1909. This photo also illustrates the east music room adjacent to the living room.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: Interior of music room facing southwest into living room.

Photograph #11 Color Digital Photos 2008

Comments: This photography is facing the SW into the living room for placement of positioning of the first floor. Note the artifacts, libraries, doctor's coat, and furniture that is part of the educational experience of the house museum. Most of the furniture is original to the Paulding family, including many pieces of furniture that was made by hand by Dr. Edwin Lyttleton Paulding.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: Interior of 1st Floor Master Bedroom in NW corner of 1st Floor.

Photograph #12Color Digital Photos 2008

Comments: This photography is facing the NE and is a view of the 1st Floor Master Bedroom in the northwest corner of the 1st Floor. This room was originally the dining room, however, Mrs. Clara Edwards Paulding redesigned the room for its current use. The artifacts in the room illustrate late 19th and early to mid 20th Century life for adults and children.Ruth Paulding was born in this bed.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420 Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: Interior of Dining Room looking east.

Photograph #13Color Digital Photos 2008 Comments: This photography is facing the E and is the interior view of the dining room that is adjacent (east) of the 1st Floor Master Bedroom. This area was originally the kitchen, but Mrs. Clara E. Paulding redesigned the configuration when the back porch was enclosed sometime around the late 1910s.

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Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: Interior of Kitchen looking north.

Photograph #14Color Digital Photos 2008

Comments: This photography is facing the N and looking into the kitchen that is directly north of the Dining Room. This room was originally a back porch that was enclosed around the late 1910s by Mrs. Clara E. Paulding in order to provide for a larger culinary area, as the original kitchen constructed by James Morrison was simply a corner of the north interior of the house.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420 Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: Interior of 2nd Floor office facing south. **Photograph #16Color Digital Photos 2008**

Comments: This photography is facing the S and looking into the 2nd Floor office that was originally a bedroom and then served as the living space for Ruth Paulding when she moved upstairs in order for the entire 1st Floor to become a house museum during her lifetime. Today, it serves as the Paulding History House office and archives.

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Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files. View of photograph: Interior of 2nd Floor bedroom facing west.

Photograph #17Color Digital Photos 2008

Comments: This photography is facing the W and looking into the 2nd Floor bedroom on the west side of the house. This served the Paulding family, then as Ruth Paulding's living space in the 1970s and today it is the living space for the on-site caretaker.

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Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files. View of photograph: Interior of 2nd Floor kitchenette facing south. **Photograph #18Color Digital Photos 2008**

Comments: This photography is facing S and looking into the 2nd floor kitchenette. This was originally a L-shaped room that served as Ruth Paulding's bedroom as a child on occasions. In the 1970s, she converted it into a kitchenette with an adjoining bathroom in order for her to occupy the 2nd floor as her living space so the 1st floor would be dedicated as a house museum.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files. View of photograph: Interior of 2ndFloor landing facing west.

Photograph #19Color Digital Photos 2008

Comments: This photography is facing the W and is the 2nd Floor landing that shows the relationship of the rooms to each other. To the left of the photo is the entry into the office. Directly ahead through the open door is the bedroom. To the right of the photo is the entry to the small bathroom. The photo is taken from the door opening of the kitchenette.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: N wall of living room west of fireplace Photograph #1 Museum Artifacts Color Photo 2008

Comments: This photo shows the library case containing Dr. Edwin L. Paulding's medical books and several of his medical instruments. Of particular note is a rather "fearsome" pair of forceps used in delivering babies. Many of these instruments were considered state-of-the-art at the time of their use. Several of the books are first editions and the collection contains an 1873 edition of Grey's Anatomy that is beautifully illustrated with finely etched engravings of the human body.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: SW corner of the living room of the 1st Floor.

Photograph #2 Museum Artifacts Color Photo 2008

Comments: This photo shows the actual desk used by the Paulding family with ledgers, diaries, writing instruments of the 19th Century, medical prescriptions, journals, and artifacts of the Period of Significance.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: SW corner of the living room of the 1st Floor.

Photograph #3 Museum Artifacts Color Photo 2008

Comments: This photo shows the displays of various aspects of the Pauldings and their lifestyles. The medical coat was Dr. Paulding's. The settee to the left was hand made by Dr. Paulding. The open book on the library desk is a scapbook of newspaper articles that chronicled the family's many achievements in the fields of medicine, education, social reform, agriculture, and preservation.

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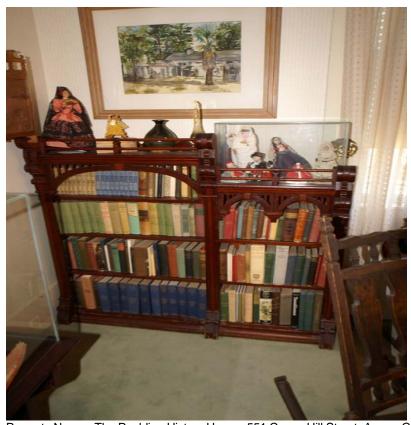
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*Recorded by Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team *Date June 23, 2008

Continuation Update

Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: SE corner of the music room of the 1st Floor.

Photograph #4 Museum Artifacts Color Photo 2008

Comments: All members of the Paulding family traveled extensively and were avid readers, as well as being highly educated in the various fields of their interests and endeavors. Both Mrs. Clara Edwards Paulding and her daughter, Ruth Paulding, were college graduates during a time period when women were not encouraged to further their education beyond the "domestic arts". Displayed here are dolls and artifacts from foreign lands, as well as books on a wide range of subjects.

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Page $\underline{28}$ of $\underline{33}$	*Resource Name or # (Assigned by r	ecorder) The Paulding History House
*Recorded by Cynthia	Thompson/Authentic Resources Team *Date June 23, 2008	□ Continuation □ Update



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: S interior wall of the music room of the 1st Floor.

Photograph #5 Museum Artifacts Color Photo 2008

Comments: The Paulding History House serves the needs of hundreds of schoolchildren in their outreach programs. In this display it is illustrated how and when electricity came to the house in 1906. Ruth Paulding's goal in preserving the housewas to illustrate how much can be accomplished with far less resources than today's technologies offer. Her desire was that the house and its objects of lifestyle would serve as a reminder to future generations that late 19th and early 20th Century life may have been technologically simplistic, however, people achieved great goals through a sense of determination, family, and community.

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*Recorded by Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team *Date June 23, 2008

Continuation Update

Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: Bed of the Master Bedroom on the 1st Floor.

Photograph #6 Museum Artifacts Color Photo 2008

Comments: The simplicity and richly colored illustrations of children's books of more than a century ago are displayed for schoolchildren to enjoy when they visit the house.

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*Recorded by Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team *Date June 23, 2008

Continuation Update

Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: S wall of the Master Bedroom on the 1st Floor.

Photograph #7 Museum Artifacts Color Photo 2008

Comments: The importance of completing one's education is subtly illustrated with the display of Ruth Paulding's high school graduation dress. The photo on the dresser was taken at her graduation from Arroyo Grande High School, a school her mother helped create. Inset by the photo is a picture of Ruth wearing the same dress when she was in her 80s.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: Dining Room of the 1st Floor. Photograph #8 Museum Artifacts Color Photo 2008

Comments: The importance of family gatherings at meals together are illustrated by the elegant simplicity of this country dining room. All of the articles on both the dining room table and the sideboard are actual items used by the Paulding family. Many discussions of the areas of life in the fields of medicine, education, social reform, and agriculture took place around this table and this fact of family communication and

sharing of ideas is highlighted to visiting schoolchildren.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files.

View of photograph: N wall of the kitchen addition of the 1st Floor.

Photograph #9 Museum Artifacts Color Photo 2008

Comments: None of the modern conveniences available to today's kitchens are present in this simple culinary area of the house. The time it took to prepare meals is illustrated in the rudimentary tools of the kitchen. The "sun-up to sun-down" daily routine of women was a factor in the Woman's Suffrage Movement, of which Mrs. Clara Edwards Paulding was a leader in Arroyo Grande. Ruth Paulding desired the house to be left exactly how her family had lived in it in order to tell the many social and cultural stories the daily objects used in living conveyed. She knew that these objects from another time would be the basis for future discussions among visitors to the house and for generations to come.

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Interior Images (Continued)



Property Name: The Paulding History House, 551 Crown Hill Street, Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo County, CA 93420

Photographer: Cynthia Thompson/Authentic Resources Team

Date of photograph: May 28, 2008

Location of original negative: Color digital photography, no negative. Stored in ART computer files. View of photograph: NE corner wall of the music room of the 1st Floor.

Photograph #10 Museum Artifacts Color Photo 2008

Comments: Television, video games, MP3s, and the internet were not available for entertainment during the late 19th and early 20th Century. The music room illustrates to visitors how people would entertain themselves through learning a musical instrument (both Paulding women were accomplished musicians), carving wood and furniture making (Dr. Paulding was a skilled, self taught artist at both areas), reading, and travel. This room contains some of the musical instruments, books of interest, and artifacts of travel the family used to enrich their lives.